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NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL)

What a great summer AVRL experienced this year! Programs abounded, thanks for the most part, to outside funding initiatives.

The *Down By the Docks* live performances involving songs and puppetry performed by a visiting British Columbia duo were a big hit. AVRL hosted two of the shows at the Berwick and Annapolis Royal Libraries. The events were sponsored by the Middleton Friends and the Village of Kingston, both with excellent turnouts.

AVRL's 2003 Summer Reading Program (SRP) theme, *the Summer Reading Quest: fantasy and adventure* was a partnership with HRL, who initiated the theme of an 8-chapter fantasy adventure written by HRL staff. Posters and collector cards for the story characters were purchased and acted as reading incentives – the more books kids read, the more sets of cards they collected. Randomly-selected entries were posted on AVRL's website with a prize draw at the end of the summer for a complete set of Harry Potter titles including the new book in CD format, thanks to Smart Libraries funding.

As a result of the six summer employees hired through various initiatives, including the Middleton Friends successful HRDC proposal, and the regular CAP employees, AVRL programs such as:

- *Science Fiction writing workshop (a "camp" consisting of 4 half-day sessions) - Berwick Library*
- *Web Design Camp - Kentville Library*

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- *Board Games Camp - Kentville and Windsor Libraries*
- *Power Point Camp - Annapolis Royal, Bridgetown, and Lawrencetown Libraries*
- *Individual tutoring in reading & math - Middleton, Kentville, Port Williams and Wolfville Libraries*
- *Scrapbooking - Kentville & Port Williams libraries*
- *Various Summer Reading Quest craft, storytime and reading groups in several libraries*

AVRL was the recipient of a $2,000 donation from the local Canadian Federation of University Women after submitting a proposal for 10 author presentations/events involving children, taking place during the fall of 2003.

Community Access Program (CAP)

The 2003-04 sustainability funding for CAP sites will enable four staff members to continue to provide training programs and activities in all locations until the end of March 2004. These programs will include after school activities for grades 3 to 5, a pre-school story time, and one-on-one tutorials for all ages.

Smart Libraries Project

The Reference Shelf has been added to the main page of AVRL's web site. This portion of the site contains web resources which will assist patrons in their fact finding, such as searching for famous quotes, conversion tables for currency and measurements, phone numbers, and much more.

The site was heavily used this past summer to promote summer activities and programs. Some SRP activities were delivered exclusively through the site. The SRP pages received 4,413 hits in just two months.

Development continues on improving site structure and new features. Library users will be able to receive e-mail messages when a new service or feature has been added or updated and may choose which features they would like to hear about. Another feature being explored is a photo gallery.

Cape Breton Regional Library (CBRL)

Library Card Month

During October CBRL celebrated its fifth annual *Library Card Month*. This is a time when residents of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality and Victoria County are invited to register for a free library card. The goal for *Library Card Month* this year was to register 2000 new patrons and by the end of the month 2768 new library cards had been issued. Fifty-six percent of these new borrowers had never owned a library card before. This was the highest number of registrations in one month since the library opened in 1950. On October 4, Eileen Kingsbury, former Children's Librarian at the McConnell Library helped to kick off *Library Card Month* by entertaining children of all ages with stories and activities. Also on October 4, CBRL held it's first ever *Food for Fines*. The Library offered its patrons a chance to trade their library fines for food. All food donated was given to local food banks. Later in the month, the Cape Breton Screaming Eagles dropped by to entertain at a *Saturday Story Time* with readings from Roch Carrier's book *The Hockey Sweater*. *The CBC Book Panel* October discussion centered on a selection of Timothy Findley books at the McConnell Library, once again in conjunction with *Library Card Month*. Outreach to community groups and organizations also took place throughout the month.

Left to right: Book panelists Lynn Zimmerman, Ken Chisholm, Bev McGee and Laurel Munroe with CBC host Wendy Martin at the McConnell Library.

Left to right: Faye MacDougall and Rosalie Gillis promoting CBRL's cards at the University of Cape Breton.

The Cape Breton Screaming Eagles mascot Screech and members of the hockey team shown at the reading at the McConnell Library.

Adult Information Sessions

The first of CBRL's 2003 Fall Adult Information Sessions began with Mr. Jim Gouthro offering an informative, interesting and if you can believe it, fun session entitled *Alzheimer's Disease: Impacts on the Family*. A diagnosis of Alzheimer's is heartbreaking and often leaves the patient as well as the patient's family feeling totally overwhelmed. In this presentation the speaker stressed the importance of gaining information about the disease and the importance of humour. Humour goes a long way in helping all those involved handle the challenges inherent in the diagnosis. Due in large part to the people who attended this session, which included an individual recently diagnosed with Alzheimer Disease as well as another diagnosed with Dementia, all who attended found this two-hour session an incredibly hopeful and inspiring experience. Jim Gouthro is on the Board of the Alzheimer Society in Cape Breton and is a Social Worker with Family Services of Eastern Nova Scotia. The line-up for the fall sessions include topics such as Water Conservation; Bullying; Cardiac Wellness; Saying *No* Without Feeling Guilty; Personal Emergency Preparedness; and Christmas Decorating.

Jim Gouthro of the Cape Breton Alzheimer's Society.

Celtic Conversations Series

CBRL had another successful *Celtic Conversation Series*. This series offers intimate, noontime conversations with some of the talented artists participating in the Celtic Colours International Festival. *Celtic Conversations* celebrates the historical, cultural and artistic expression of the Celtic Peoples and is in it's sixth consecutive year. On October 15, Margaret Bennett, one of the world's foremost authorities on Scottish Folklore kept the audience enthralled with her talk entitled *Scottish Customs from the Cradle to the Grave*. Unsure what to expect from the session - *Cajun Music: IsThere a Connection?* - Dirk Powell and Courtney Granger, members of the traditional Cajun band Balfa Toujours, based in Louisiana, demonstrated some of the many similarities and differences between Acadian and Cajun music, especially fiddle tunes. Through use of taped recordings and live music, if the audience wasn't a fan of Cajun music going into this toe-tapping session, they were by the time it was over.

David Greenberg (violin/fiddle), Abby Newton (cello) and Kim Robertson (Celtic harp), known collectively as Ferintosh, wowed an audience of 40 as they explored the links between traditional baroque and 18th Century Scotland.

Pictured here on either side of Margaret Bennett are CBRL staff Donna MacLeod and Theresa MacDonald.

Dirk Powell and Courtney Granger, members of the traditional Cajun band Balfa Toujours.

Run For The Cure

Once again CBRL participated in *Run for the Cure*, which occurred on Sunday, October 5, 2003 . The team, *CBRL: Circle of Friends* raised $1006.00. The day of the walk was sunny and warm and all were very pleased to participate in such a worthwhile cause.

CBRL's *Run for the Cure* team pictured on Rita MacNeil's front steps.

Colchester-East Hants Regional Library (CEHRL)

Staff recognition evening: Library Board Chair, John Patterson, with this years' recipients of CEHRL's library service awards, (l. to r.) Penny Colpitts, Karen King, Sheryl Robinson, John Patterson, Marilyn MacWha, and Estelle Grajczyk.

Cumberland Regional Library (CURL)

The Summer Reading Club was popular again this year with 430 children part. Kids especially liked the collectible cards and the backpacks that were given as prizes. Older kids were able to join in the reading fun with Teen

Book Bingo. Kids in grades seven to twelve could fill a line on a special book bingo card and enter to win great prizes from local businesses such as free movie passes, free food at local restaurants, and gift certificates from local stores. Thanks are extended to The Community Credit Union of Cumberland Colchester, Atlantic Combustion, Scotsburn Dairy and Sifto Canada for sponsoring this program.

CURL's SRP winners.

Renovations to the second floor of the Amherst Library began at the end of June and staff were able to move into the new headquarters office at the end of September. Headquarters staff are pleased to be getting out of the basement of the Amherst Town Hall to the new office which offers plenty of natural light and better ventilation. Needless to say it was a noisy summer with all the construction work being done, but the inconveniences were well worth it.

In September, drawing classes were held for kids as well as the *Mother/Daughter Bookclub* in Amherst. Kids in Springhill participated in a clay crafts workshop and a used book sale was held. Scrapbooking classes were held for kids and staff were busy making plans for Public Library Week.

Throughout the month of October, a membership drive was held in CURL branches with random prize draws for those who registered or renewed their library card this month. The library's goal was for 300 new members. As a lead into Public Library Week, the Amherst Branch had its first ever slumber party - *Locked in @the library*. Eleven girls in grades 5-8 spent 15 hours locked in the library playing games, having book discussions, eating treats, watching a movie, and making crafts. Who says it's boring to spend Friday night at the library? These girls had a great time and can't wait to do it again. Special thanks was extended to Assistant Librarian Beth Clinton for organizing the event and spending the night at the library.

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Children's author Shelley Tanaka visited the Amherst and Parrsboro Branches on October 20. Kids were fascinated as Shelley talked about her numerous books including *On Board the Titanic*, *Discovering the Iceman* and *Graveyards of the Dinosaurs*.

Eastern Counties Regional Library (ECRL)

ECRL's fourth annual book sale was a great success, raising approximately $1200, a substantial increase over la. The event was held as part of Mulgrave's Scotia Days Festivities and drew approximately 150 visitors to the basement location.

Patrons dash to the *Bag and Box* table.

The Summer Author Series with Alistair MacLeod took place in early August with visits to the library branches in Port Hawkesbury, Canso and Margaree Forks. Attendance was high at all events, even in Port Hawkesbury as Alistair drew a large crowd on the evening of the provincial election.

Left to right: Mayor Frank Fraser presents author Alistair MacLeod with town pin, picture of the Sailor's Memorial and the Canso Regatta Program.

Headquarters staff were treated to a hands-on demonstration on using a fire extinguisher. Training was given by Mulgrave resident and fire fighter, Tom Diggins, shown on the far right. The training was arranged by the Occupational Health and Safety Committee of ECRL.

In June, ECRL launched the creation of its *In Memoriam/Leave a Legacy* program. Brochure displays have been placed in all library locations, area funeral homes and law offices. Designed to promote interest in giving to the public library, the program encourages members of the community to donate to the library in memoriam/in honor of, and to consider the library in their estate planning.

Joe Walsh, ECRL Board Chair, second from the right, presents the first of the recently produced Legacy brochures to John Langley, Funeral Director for Dennis Haverstock Funeral Homes Ltd., Port Hawkesbury. Also in attendance were ECRL's Dave Cumby and Anne Campbell.

Janey Jordan was the recipient of the Volunteer Recognition Award for the Sherbrooke Library Recognition Awards for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's. Janey was 13 when she volunteered to help in the library last summer, assisting with the summer reading program, shelving, etc.

Lesley Brothers, Library Assistant at the Sherbrooke Library presents Janey Jordan, shown here on the right, with her volunteer certificate.

Sherbrooke Library staff presented Cpl. Terry Miller, representative of the *Adopt-a-Library* program, with a giant thank you card as he prepared to leave for a posting elsewhere. Cpl. Miller was instrumental in establishing the program in the Sherbrooke community and will be sorely missed by staff and children alike.

Corporal Terry Miller, RCMP *Adopt-a-Library* representative, is flanked by ECRL staff Lesley Brothers, (left) and Carolyn Cameron.

Halifax Regional Library (HRL)

Public Library Week Celebrations at Halifax Public Libraries

To celebrate *Public Library Week* Halifax Public Libraries recently held a special event on Saturday, October 25at all branches to mark the day and the week. Each library invited local celebrities as well as local politicians to drop by for a piece of cake and a chat. Here are just some of the well-known voices and faces who came by to help celebrate: CBC's 1st Edition Anchor, Linda Kelly; children's author, Budge Wilson; Olympic paddler, Steve Giles; and Herald cartoonist, Bruce MacKinnon.

CBC's *Canada Now* host Linda Kelly takes a minute to say hello to a young library patron at the Bedford Public Library.

Performer Dutch Robinson entertains a captive crowd at the Keshen Goodman Public Library.

Also being promoted during the week and for the Saturday event, was the Halifax Public Libraries' *Tell a Friend* campaign - taking place during the month of October. As part of the campaign, there was a draw to win two great prizes: dinner for two and a night's accommodation at the Halliburton House or tickets for two to Neptune Theatre's production of *Wingfield on Ice*. To enter, a current patron was asked to bring in or tell a friend about the library and when he or she registered for a card, both names were automatically entered in the draw. During that week, patrons could also come in and trade in their old library card for a newly designed one - complete with the Library's new logo - absolutely free of charge.

The theme of this year's *Public Library Week* celebration was *Look at us Now*, a message which conveys both the idea of libraries being integral to the communities they serve, as well as rising to the challenge of meeting the needs of increasingly busy and sophisticated customers.

Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL)

During the first two weeks of September PARL took part in a joint fund raising effort with the 5th Stellarton Royal Canadian Mounted Police Ventures at the New Glasgow outlet of the Atlantic Superstore. Initiated by the *Adopt A Library Literacy Program*, the effort raised a significant amount of money and was a great public relations endeavour. To take part, customers entering the Superstore could make a minimum donation and select an envelope from the prize tree. Each envelope was a winner and contained the name of a prize that was donated by a community business or organization, which were also on display. Some of the prizes included a microwave open, an air hockey table and each day, a frozen turkey. Organizations and individuals that made the fund raising event possible included Constable John Kennedy, the staff and management of the Atlantic Superstore, and Scholastic Canada. Funds donated

will be used to purchase children's books and materials.

Children's Programming Assistant Stacey Monroe poses with Laura Campbell as she makes a donation to PARL's recent fund raising effort at the New Glasgow outlet of the Atlantic Superstore.

Each summer, fans of fine literature find themselves heading towards River John, a small village situated on the north shore of the province, to attend one of Nova Scotia's most popular annual literary festivals, *Read By The Sea*. This year attendees were not were not to be disappointed as Canada's leading lady of fiction, Margaret Atwood, read from her latest best selling novel, *Oryx and Crake*. Witty, charming, and unfazed by the heat, Ms. Atwood regaled the appreciative audience with stories of her down east family connections and the blessings and curses of writing for a living in Canada. Sharing the bill were equally entertaining Atlantic Province authors Linda Little, Alfred Silver and Michael Crummey. In the five years since its inception, the dedicated and determined *Read By the Sea* committee managed this booking coup, solidifying this event's reputation as a must attend literary festival.

Canadian author Margaret Atwood at River John's *Read By the Sea*.

In what turned out to be the perfect end to a long, happy story, famed Canadian children's author Bob Munsch launched his latest book, *Lighthouse: A Story Of Remembrance*, at the Cape George lighthouse on Saturday, September 13. Situated 360 feet over Georges Bay, the lighthouse will now be known as part of the inspiration for Munsch's new book, which had its beginnings over ten years ago when the author visited the town of Antigonsh. After that reading a shy, young fan left a drawing of the Cape George

lighthouse for Munsch with only her name, Sarah Gillis, on the back. Intrigued by the drawing, Munsch soon wrote a story based on the image and then called the Antigonish Library in an effort to contact and thank the unknown artist. After explaining the situation to PARL Branch Assistant Rhynda Tudor, she realized the artist was actually Patricia Gillis, who sometimes went by her first name, Sarah. Munsch was then put in touch with Patricia and the two became pen pals. Initially, Munsch did not tell Patricia about his possible plans to make the story into a book. Eventually plans for publishing the story were made and Bob returned to Antigonish to take pictures for the book's artwork. As news of Munsch's affiliation with Antigonish filtered through the small town, it eventually reached Mary MacLellan, who is a part of the North Shore Development Committee. Recognizing an opportunity to promote her community, Mary soon had a plan to host a book launch on the lighthouse site with the wholehearted support of Munsch and his publisher, Scholastic Canada. And so the event went off without a hitch, much to the credit of the organizers, as over 3800 fans traveled the winding road up to the usually quiet Cape George Lighthouse. Beneath a large orange and white circus tent, those who made the trek got to see and hear their favorite children's author read the new book with a now eighteen year old Patricia sharing much of the spotlight. After the reading over 1000 children and adults lined up to have Munsch autograph copies of his new title, as well as Canadian classics such as *Mortimer* and *Love You Forever*.

Author Robert Munsch, shown here in the hat, takes a break from autographing copies of his new book *Lighthouse: A Story of Remembrance,* to pose with three generations of the Gillis family and PARL's Antigonish Branch Assistant, Rhynda Tudor.

The Summer Reading Program went well this year as PARL teamed with CEHRL in a trial effort to create a theme independent of the provincial program. By all accounts, the experiment was well received in both regions with over 650 children participating to read over 8,000 books in PARL's region alone. Using the theme, *Reading Is Magical* and its dragon mascot, Sparky Wordsworth Jr., PARL's children's programmers were busy delivering lots of activities based on the magic of reading while visiting their local library.

On Tuesday, October 21 the newly renovated and newly named Pictou Library and Innovation Centre held an official launch and ribbon cutting ceremony to recognize the expanded facility. To help mark the occasion, the public was invited to attend the ceremony and daylong open house for tea, coffee and light refreshments. Organizations thanked during the ceremony for making the renovations a reality were: the Town of Pictou, 144 Airfield Engineering Flight Pictou County, Nova Scotia Office of Economic Development, Pictou CAP Committee, Industry Canada, and the *Adopt A Library Literacy Program*.

Additions to the library branch included a new community program room, a larger children's area that will allow for increased children's programming, a new staff room, shelving for more books and magazines, wheelchair accessible computer tables for public access terminals, new carpet throughout, and comfortable armchairs for patrons to relax in and read their favorite book. Now that more space is available, PARL's enthusiastic library staff is looking forward to hosting community programs, public information sessions, and author visits which will feature the unique heritage of Pictou County's shire town. Plans for the room already in place include a new book discussion group, local author readings, and children's programming. During the day patrons filled out ballots and answered the question, "What

does the Pictou Library and Innovation Centre mean to you?" for a chance to win a dinner for two at a local restaurant.

Jim Stanley, Director of Policies and Strategies, Office of Economic Development of Nova Scotia, shown during the recent launch of the Pictou Library and Innovation Centre.

South Shore Regional Library (SSRL)

He's off-roading it now! After 22 years at the wheel of Mobile Branch 2, Corwin Hirtle retired from SSRL. Many patrons in the Mobile Branch's service area appeared for Corwin's farewell tour bringing good wishes, gifts and even a special guitar solo. The Library staff and board honored Corwin with a dinner at a Bridgewater restaurant. Corwin was SSRL's second Supervisor of Motor Vehicles and both his predecessor and his successor were on hand for the festivities.

Western Counties Regional Library (WCRL)

Calendar Caps Year's Fundraising Efforts

WCRL's 2004 fundraising calendar was launched in October. The calendar is a new fundraising effort, which along with Library Lotto, will help the library reach its goal to raise three percent of its operating revenue. The calendar features photo montages of the library's branches and the communities they serve. While the primary purpose is to raise money for books, the calendar is also viewed as an important public relations tool, which will provide information about the library, the region's municipal governments and other public agencies. The calendar has received terrific advertising support from area businesses, the library's municipal partners and the region's MLAs. The calendars will be sold at WCRL's 10 branches for $5 and may be ordered online. Retail outlets are also being sought to sell the calendar. It follows on the heels of the three month Library Lotto campaign, which raised around $3200 for the library's book budget.

Western Counties Regional Library Chair recognized with Canadian Library Trustees Association Merit Award

WCRL Chair Gary Archibald was recognized by his peers during a gala awards ceremony at the Canadian

Library Association's annual conference in Toronto. The Yarmouth County resident earned the Canadian Library Trustees Association Merit Award "for distinguished Service as a Public Library Trustee" at the ceremony held Sunday, June 22. The award is presented annually to a library trustee who has demonstrated leadership in the advancement of trusteeship and public library service in Canada. Among those who supported his nomination was Judy Heron, a trustee of the board of the Kennebecassis Public Library in New Brunswick. In her letter to the nominating committee Judy wrote, "He is an outstanding leader who inspires others to do more than even they believe they can do." Gary Archibald was first appointed to the Library Board as a representative of the Municipality of Yarmouth in 1983. He served in that capacity until 1986 and then returned in 1993 and has served since then as a provincial appointee. Gary chaired the board from 1993-1997 and was again elected Chair in 1999, a position he still holds. But one cannot earn this award for work at the local level alone. Over the last 20 years, Gary has held several positions at the provincial and national level, including President of the Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia (1994) and Treasurer of the Canadian Library Association (1995-96, 1996/97). He is a past president of the Canadian Library Trustees Association (1998/01). W hen asked why she nominated him, Judy Heron replied without hesitation, "Because he is the most outstanding trustee that I have ever served with."

Gary Archibald, Chair of WCRL.

French Library Services Librarian Accepts Université Sainte-Anne Position

WCRL's French Library Services Coordinator Janice Boudreau has a new job as University Librarian at Université Sainte-Anne. Janice has worked for WCRL since 1983. During her career, Janice has coordinated library services for several branches. Most recently, she has been responsible for the Yarmouth and Clare Branches of WCRL. In commenting on the resignation, Director Trudy Amirault said, "Sainte-Anne's gain is certainly WCRL's loss!"

Library Receives 10 Copies Of Home Grown Video From Juniper

Where Can I Go, **a video to inform and assist women who may be experiencing domestic violence, is now available at all branches of WCRL. Ten copies of the video have been donated by the region's women's shelter. In commenting on the donation of the 27-minute video, WCRL's Director Trudy Amirault said that libraries were natural repositories for these kinds of materials, as libraries are built on the core principles of universal access and intellectual freedom. Ms. Amirault stated that "Freedom is one of the first things lost in an abusive relationship. We're delighted to be able to make this video easily available to our borrowers". The video is a co-production of Juniper House, the region's shelter for victims of domestic violence and EastLink Television. Funds were provided by a grant from the Community Mobilization Fund. Juniper House's outreach worker, Melissa Reede, said the organization is not only targeting the victims of violence with this video, but it is also for anyone who works with women in the community. "We want to dispel some of the myths," Reede commented, adding, "We want to increase the awareness. There is a safe place for women and their children in the Tri-Counties." The video was written and scripted by Yarmouth teacher, Brenda Tate, and is available for loan from any WCRL Branch.**

Juniper House Outreach Worker Melissa Reede presents 10 copies of the locally produced video, *Where Can I Go*, to WCRL Director Trudy Amirault.

Sponsorship Helps Boost SRP, Again

For the third year in a row, WCRL's *Summer Reading Program* has seen an increase in participants and, after a minor dip last year, the number of books read is up by three per cent. Nearly 18,500 children's books and other materials were circulated. Children's Librarian Joanne Head attributes the program's success both to continued sponsorship by McDonald's Restaurants, and the enthusiastic efforts of Library Clerks across the region. In addition to the regional *Quest* game, with its associated collector cards and turns in the *Quest* hot seat, WCRL Branches delivered 75 programs for children from 3-13 years of age. They included magic acts, puppet shows, movies, crafts and story telling. WCRL is indebted to the operators of the local Yarmouth and Barrington McDonald's Restaurant for their commitment to children's literacy. Along with the popular food coupons, McDonald's provided the cash needed not only for prizes, but for the purchase of the *Quest* program materials and other supplies.

Rod Rose, McDonald's Restaurants, helps nine-year old Jake Belliveau of West Pubnico adjust the new helmet that goes along with the bicycle he won, one of three awarded in this year's SRP.

NEWS FROM DALHOUSIE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES, (SLIS)

The School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS), is pleased to welcome 41 new students into the 2003/2004 academic programme. A number of orientation activities were organized to welcome the new students, including a barbecue lunch and a scavenger hunt.

SLIS is pleased to announce the promotion of Dr Louise Spiteri to Associate Professor, effective July 1 2003. Dr Spiteri came to Dalhousie in 1998 from Wayne State University. Her Ph.D. (1996) from the Faculty of Information Studies at the University of Toronto included a thesis on the *Design of a Measuring Instrument to Evaluate the Structural Quality of Faceted Thesauri.* Dr Spiteri holds four degrees in addition to her Ph.D.: a BA and MA (History) from York University, a B.Ed from the University of Toronto and an MLIS from the University of Western Ontario

As part of the SLIS Lecture Series, Patrick Ellis presented the topic *Critical Condition: The Case for a National Network of Libraries for Health (NNLH)*, on September 19, 2003. Mr. Ellis addressed the need for a Canadian National Network of Libraries for Health. Mr. Ellis is presently co-chair of the National Network of Libraries for Health Task Force; he has served as President of the Canadian Health Libraries Association (CHLA), and as Chair of CHLA's Resource Sharing Task Force.

On October 21, Marie DeYoung, Director, Library Services and Online Learning, Nova Scotia Community College, delivered a lecture entitled *Service and Leadership - How to Follow and Lead at the Same Time* as part of the School of Library and Information Studies' public lecture series. The lecture was followed by a reception at which the Associated Alumni of the School presented the 2003 Outstanding Alumni Award to Ms. DeYoung (Class of 1980).

The Faculty of Management is sponsoring a monthly informal discussion series on different aspects of teaching in professional programs. The sessions are open to all interested faculty members in the Dalhousie community and are facilitated by Louise Spiteri, Associate Professor, School of Library and Information Studies (SLIS).

An AMICUS training session, facilitated by Oryst Iwanycky, was held on October 24 at the Killam Library for SLIS students and faculty.

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL LIBRARY NEWS

NEW MINISTER OF EDUCATION APPOINTED

We welcome the Honourable Jamie Muir as Minister of Education. Minister Muir has a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education from Dalhousie University and Masters and Doctorate degrees in education from the University of Virginia.

Before entering politics, he was a high school teacher in Truro; Director of Inspection Services at the Nova Scotia Department of Education; Inspector of Schools in Cumberland, Colchester and East Hants; lecturer at University of Prince Edward Island; Assistant Professor at Memorial University of Newfoundland; Senior Research Associate at the Atlantic Institute of Education; Principal of the Nova Scotia Teachers College; and lecturer in the Education Department at St. Francis Xavier University.

Minister Muir was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in March 1998; reelected in July 1999 and in August 2003. His Cabinet duties have included Attorney General; Minister of: Justice; and Minister of Health. He has been Minister Responsible for the Human Rights Act, the Regulations Act and Part II of the Workers Compensation Act.

NEW SENIOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Department of Education has a new Senior Executive Director for its Higher Education Branch. Wayne Doggett was appointed to the position beginning Wednesday, Oct. 1. Mr. Doggett has spent most of his 22 years in Nova Scotia's public service in the Department of Education. He has had research, planning, policy and evaluation roles related to both the public school and post-secondary systems. A graduate of Acadia and Oxford Universities, Mr. Doggett has taught economics at Acadia and served for six years as Nova Scotia's representative on the Maritime Provinces Higher Education Commission. "Mr. Doggett brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this position," said Dennis Cochrane, Deputy Minister of Education. "I know he is looking forward to working with our partners to build a stronger Nova Scotia through our investments in students, universities and the community college." Mr. Doggett is replacing Susan Clark, who left the department in June to take the position of vice-president academic and provost at Trent University.

Wayne Doggett, Senior Executive Director, Higher Education Branch, Nova Scotia Department of Education.

INFANT AND TODDLERS STORYTIME, SEPTEMBER 15, 2003

Five experienced children's' programmers took turns sharing their tips and programs regarding infants, toddlers, and their caregivers at an all-day session at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, September 15. The emphasis was on current and future programming done through public libraries. Jill Webster, Nova

Scotia Provincial Library facilitated the workshop, which attracted 12 attendees from Nova Scotia public libraries.

Speakers included Carol McDougall, Director of the *Read to Me! Nova Scotia Family Literacy Program*; Heather MacKenzie, Halifax Public Libraries; Sarah Clark with co-presenter Lori Noseworthy, both from AVRL, and Joanne Head, WCRL.

Early literacy was linked by several speakers as a key first step to wellness and good health, as well as getting a head start on education. The panel session at the end of the day gave attendees a chance to ask more questions, provide feedback, and share ideas.

Heather MacKenzie, HRL is Resource Manager for Preschool Services and Youth Services Manager at Alderney Gate Public Library. Heather is active in children's literature activities, including the *Read to Me! Program* at the IWK.

ADULT LEARNERS' WEEK, SEPTEMBER 7-13, 2003

The 2003 theme for *Adult Learners Week* in Nova Scotia was *What did you learn today?*, emphasizing the fact that we are all learners, and there is potential to learn something new every day.

Nova Scotia Public Libraries contributed photographs to the wall display in the main hall of the Trade Mart building which houses the Department of Education. The photos showed adult learners in public libraries across the province, and captured the essence of public libraries for many, that is, lifelong learning.

Passers-by were asked to fill out a ballot answering the question of the day, and there was a different question each day. Public Library Day was celebrated on September 10, with the question, *What is your favourite book?* More than 30 people responded, and the answers ranged from *Cat's Eye* by Margaret Atwood to *The Paperback Princess* by Robert Munsch. Many thanks to Meredith Hutchings, Project Development Officer, Adult Education Division, Skills and Learning Branch, Department of Education.

International Adult Learners' Week was celebrated in Canada for the second consecutive year.

Davina Davies, NS Dept. of Education employee, won the SRP t-shirt.

NSLA/LBANS CONFERENCE 2003
NOVA SCOTIA LIBRARIES: STRAIT AHEAD!

Nova Scotia Libraries
LBA NS LA
October 24 - 26, 2003
Strait Ahead!

JOINT NSLA/LBANS CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Approximately 150 delegates consisting of library staff, library Board members and other interested individuals were in attendance October 24-26 for the joint Nova Scotia Library Association/Library Boards Association of Nova Scotia 2003 Conference. The conference, hosted by ECRL at Dundee Resort, began with a opening Wine and Cheese reception at which Port Hawkesbury Mayor William J. MacLean welcomed delegates on behalf of area Municipalities. The evening also featured local Inverness County historian and author Dr. Jim St. Clair who entertained with several local folktales.

This year's conference theme of *Nova Scotia Libraries - Strait Ahead!* was ably addressed by Saturday's keynote speaker, well-known local author and journalist Dr. Silver Donald Cameron. He reflected on the early and continuous role libraries have played in his own personal development as a human being as well as a writer. He also fondly recalled an aunt of his who had stated that "if we were put on the earth to learn, she was not leaving until she had learned everything she could". He emphasized the advocacy role of libraries in helping individuals acquire lifelong skills and wisdom in the best use of all their gathered knowledge.

NSLA/LBANS Conference keynote speaker Dr. Silver Donald Cameron.

Dr. Cameron indicated that libraries have generally kept up with changing technologies and the increasing information demands of the public, while dealing with ever-tightening budgets. But libraries, like much of our human lives, are ultimately to be about the important task of *telling stories*. If Nova Scotia libraries are to continue to move ahead they must be at the forefront in encouraging and enhancing opportunities for these life stories to be told and preserved.

Throughout the conference a wide variety of sessions were offered for library staff and others on such topics as: Programming for children/involving the community; *A Day in the life* of my library; the Congr s Mondial Acadien 2004; Answering genealogical inquiries; Enhancing communication/workplace creativity; a Government Online pilot project and Library Foundations/fundraising. Informative pre-conference sessions on *Infant and Toddler Story time* programs in libraries and *New Developments in Genealogical Research* attracted speakers and participants from around the Province and authors Linda Johns, Joyce Rankin and Donna D'Amour presented readings and a creative writing workshop.

A complementary stream of Library Trustee workshops focused on such areas as Board orientation; CEO evaluation and Effective meeting tips. The weekend also featured two lively roundtable sessions on Partnership activities and Capital funding strategies for Regional Libraries.

The NSLA Annual General Meeting on Sunday saw the election of a new Slate of Officers for the coming year, including President Erica Smith of Halifax and Vice-President/President-Elect Trudy Amirault of Yarmouth. Delegates were also invited by CEHRL to the fall 2004 conference to be held in the Truro area, with the tentative theme *Libraries: the Hub of your Community*.

2003 LBANS LIBRARY TRUSTEE MERIT AWARD

During the Conference banquet on Saturday evening Warden Allister MacDonald of the County of Pictou was presented with the 2003 library trustee Merit Award by LBANS President John Patterson and former LBANS President Alan Wilson.

NORMAN HORROCKS AWARD FOR LIBRARY LEADERSHIP

The Nova Scotia Library Association also paid a special tribute to Dr. Norman Horrocks (former Director of the Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies) by announcing the establishment of the "Norman Horrocks Award for Library Leadership" which will be awarded annually by NSLA for leadership in the Nova Scotia library community beginning in 2004. A committee has been struck to develop terms of reference for the award.

NSLA/LBANS WORKSHOP FEATURES AUTHOR LINDA JOHNS

A very enjoyable session given at the NSLA/LBANS Conference featured celebrated local author and artist, Linda Johns. Linda resides in James River, Antigonish County, NS, and has spent much of her life caring for and rehabilitating wild animals, who have found themselves in difficulty through abuse or by accident. A creature that was especially dear to Linda, a robin which Linda named County, lived with her for a period of five years, and was the inspiration behind much of Linda's art. A multi-talented artist, Linda shared the experiences gained from living with these wild creatures through her writing, painting and sculpting, both in wood and stone. Session attendees were treated to select readings from some of her published works including, *For the birds*, *In the company of birds* and *Sharing a Robins Life*. As well, conference attendees were given the opportunity to see a documentary featuring Linda's dedication to wildlife created by Jack and Janet Foster.

Nova Scotia author and artist Linda Johns.

INFANT AND TODDLER WORKSHOP HELD AT NSLA

The second *Infant and Toddler Storytime* workshop for public library staff was held at the NSLA Conference, in Mulgrave, on October 24, 2003. This session followed a similar format to the one held at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library (NSPL) in September and both were facilitated by NSPL's Jill Webster. The workshop included 20 participants.

Carol McDougall, Director of the *Read to Me! Nova Scotia Family Literacy Program*.

LIBRARIES AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY SESSION At NSLA CONFERENCE

Sue Adams, Librarian, Coady International Institute, St. Francis Xavier University on October 25, 2003 presented a workshop called *Beyond Neutrality: Libraries, Social Responsibility and Peace Building*. Ms. Adams has been a human rights activist for over 30 years, and has held many workshops on managing information resource centres in the global South. Her session focused on the ABC of moving towards social responsibility. Literally, they are Attitudes, Behaviours, and Context; and in diagrammatic form, Sue showed how we often start off with fixed attitudes towards issues that are passed down to us. Then, sometimes, some piece of information, (verbal, written or visual) can have a huge impact on our attitudes, so that behaviour is affected, and we are able to look afresh at the context of an issue.

Participants of the session looked at how libraries often need to take small steps towards building in more programs and material collections on tolerance in a world full of conflict. Libraries in some cases have reversed an old tradition of being places for social responsibility and have become more *value-free* as they have become more professionalized. Instead, we need to compare pieces of information in our libraries, so that the public can assimilate this information and become more knowledgeable citizens. Another way of putting it is that by understanding patterns and then underlying principles, it is then possible to act wisely.

STAFFING NOTES

Jill Webster has accepted a term position as Labour Mobility Coordinator/ Policy Analyst, Department of Education, Labour Market Partnerships Division, Skills & Learning Branch. She will be away from NSPL from November 10, 2003 to August 6, 2004. Jill's new position is responsible for coordinating and implementing Federal/Provincial activities related to higher education and adult learning initiatives, and for the development of specific to broad-based policies and strategies related to the labour market, prior learning, and foreign qualification recognition, as examples.

Jill has been the webmaster for NSPL and has acted as commercial online database liaison with the public libraries. She has worked for many years assisting in the production of *The Disseminator* and has been very active in assisting public libraries in areas such as training, inter-library loans and services to the disabled. Jill has been involved for the last several years with Web Awareness, an initiative to assist parents and children to navigate the World Wide Web safely. We wish her well in her new position.

NSPL's Jill Webster as she bids a fond adieu before assuming new responsibilities with the NS Dept. of Education.

Amy Russell is shown here at a farewell luncheon after concluding a successful two and a half year job sharing agreement with Senior Acquisitions Clerk Jane Lockwood in September. Amy has taken a one year leave of absence before returning to her permanent position with Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations.

HOT TIPS AND UPDATES

UNSM CONFERENCE

There were many opportunities to reinforce positive messages about libraries to those who pay part of the bill when WCRL hosted the Nova Scotia Public Libraries booth at the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities conference held in Yarmouth from Oct. 15-17. Thanks to WCRL Board Chair Gary Archibald's efforts to secure volunteers, board trustees, supported by library staff, were available to discuss issues of importance to libraries with their counterparts. The NS Provincial Library's User Services Coordinator, Michael Colborne staffed the booth Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. The display unit is proving its worth, allowing libraries to put a professional face forward at public events. The quality of the booth was noted by delegates on several occasions.

During the ministers panel Friday morning two questions relating to libraries and funding were directed at Education Minister Jamie Muir. The minister said support for public libraries was a priority. He acknowledged that libraries are not receiving enough funding, but added that many other public institutions probably aren't either. Minister Muir gave no guarantees, but promised to seriously consider the Regional Public Libraries Funding Formula Review Committee's report when it is tabled later this fall.

NS Education Minister Jamie Muir and Yarmouth Mayor Charles Crosby, shown on the far right, visit the Nova Scotia Public Library booth staffed by Michael Colborne, User Services Coordinator with the NS Provincial Library.

REFERENCE ON THE NET

Here are some more reference questions referred to the Provincial Library by the Regional Public Libraries. They were answered using resources found on the Internet.

Q. Where does the saying "I cried because I had no shoes, until I met a man who had no feet" come from?

A. A search of the Google newsgroup *alt.quotations*, which is for sharing and discussing quotations at http://groups.google.com/groups?group=alt.quotations turns up some useful information about this saying. Enter the quote in the search box there and click on "Search only in alt.quotations". A number of replies there say that this is a modern version cited as an old Arabian proverb, from *The Gulistan* or *Rose Garden* by Sadi.

Q. Would like biographical information on Ralph Lent Jeffery, 1889-1975, and a copy of the retirement speech titled *A Nova Scotian in Upper Canada* which he gave at Queen's University.

A. If a person is connected with a university as in this case with Queen's University, the university archives is a good place to search if the holdings are on their web site. The Queen's University Archives can be searched at http://library.queensu.ca/webarch/. A search turns up two records for the Ralph Lent Jeffrey fonds. A detailed listing of the fonds isn't given, but it would be worth contacting the Archives for biographical information and to see if they have a copy of the speech.

LINKed

There are lots of good readers advisory sites on the web and this months *Linked* column includes some of those with interesting and useful approaches to this topic.

whichbook.net at http://www.whichbook.net/ is a British readers advisory project led by Openlibraries Ltd. and involving all public library authorities in England and Wales. The main page has bars for various elements of mood, level of ease or difficulty, and length. When you click on one of the bars for these elements you can click anywhere along the bar to indicate the degree of choice for that element. You can click on up to four bars at a time to narrow your selection. The *about information* says that there are 20 million different permutations possible. If you want a more conventional method for choosing books there is a bar at the bottom which says *change to character, plot, setting* where choices along these lines can be made. The site has a demo which shows how to use it.

BiblioTravel at http://js.dyck.org/travel/travel.cfm was created by two librarians. Books are organized by

the location they are set in, but can also be found by author, title and genre. According to this site, Toronto and Ottawa are among the top five cities which are the settings for books.

To search for adult fiction in series try *What's Next* http://www.kdl.org/libcat/whatsnext.asp, a database developed and maintained by Kent District Library, Comstock Park, Michigan. For juvenile series there is the *Juvenile Series and Sequels Database*, http://www.mcpl.lib.mo.us/readers/series/juv/ produced by the Mid-Continent Public Library, Independence, Missouri.

Some Canadian public libraries with booklists by genre are Halifax Regional Library's *Popular Reading Resource Lists* at http://www.halifax.library.ns.ca/readerscafe/res_pop.html, Halton Hills Public Library's *Favourite Fiction* at http://www.library.hhpl.on.ca/readers.asp, and Pickering Public Library's *Book Picks for Book Lovers* at http://www.picnet.org/booklovers/.

The Reference Databases - Books & Literature page of Saskatoon Public Library at http://www.publib.saskatoon.sk.ca/booksdb.html lists several databases which are useful for readers advisory. *How Novel!* brings together information on Canadian fiction written for young adults aged 12 - 18, *Large Print and Talking Books in Sequence* has fiction and non-fiction books which are part of a series and *Novels in Sequence* lists works of fiction that are part of a series. Word wheels are available to use to search these databases.

Web sites which were featured in previous *Linked* columns are arranged by subject category on the Reference Services page of the Provincial Library web site at http://www.library.ns.ca/services/reference/index.htm. If you have any suggestions about future topics for this column please contact Carol Morris at morrisc@gov.ns.ca.

PROFESSIONAL READING

In this month's column, two books of particular interest to library technicians are featured. These items can be borrowed through regular interlibrary loan channels. Please submit requests via email to Dale MacMillan at inshpl@nshpl.library.ns.ca.

Kao, Mary L. - Cataloguing and classification for library technicians. 2nd edition. New York: Haworth Press, 2001.
Call # : Prof 025 .3 Kao

The author introduces her topic in the context of library organization, the role of technical assistants and the functions of cataloguing and classifications. She covers all aspects of a library technician's job, together with step-by-step instructions for cataloguing and classification of library materials [book and nonbook]. She also includes definitions of relevant terminology, detailed tables and figures and many convenient web addresses for up-to-date information.

Kao, Mary L. - Introduction to technical services for library technicians. New York: Haworth Press, 2001.
Call # : Prof 025 .02 Kao

This book is intended as a practical how-to-do-it text that shows how to perform the behind-the-scenes tasks the job requires. It covers a wealth of topics including computers, technical services, bibliographic utilities and networks, acquisition, cataloguing and classification, government documents, serials and preservation. It also has suggested reading lists, charts and tables and review questions at the end of each chapter.

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http://www.library.ns.ca/publications/disseminator/

Comments on or suggestions for The Disseminator should be directed to Arlene Watts at **wattsam@gov.ns.ca**

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